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## FRANK BIGELOW TARBELL

1853-1920

The death of Frank Bigelow Tarbell, on December 4, 1920, has taken from us an outstanding personality among the veteran classical scholars of America, and one of the first in this country definitely to devote himself to the field of classical archaeology.

Mr. Tarbell was born in Groton, Massachusetts, in 1853, and graduated from Yale College in 1873 at the head of his class. He taught Greek at Yale 1876-87, was annual director of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens 1888-89, instructor in Greek at Harvard 1889-92, secretary of the School at Athens 1892-93, and then became permanently settled in the University of Chicago, until his retirement from the chair of Classical Archaeology in 1918. His period of freedom from academic duties proved all too short.

The writer has enjoyed the rare privilege of knowing Mr. Tarbell, not only as a colleague for more than twenty-five years, but still earlier as teacher and adviser. My admiration of his scholarship and of his character runs back to the time when every undergraduate of Yale College came under his instruction in Greek, in those last days of the old classical curriculum. Many a student came to realize for the first time in his classes in Aristophanes or in the Private Orations of Demosthenes, that Athens was a real place and the Athenians real people. The affectionate regard which is so often expressed by Yale students of that period may well be the envy of any teacher.

In Chicago, Mr. Tarbell's career changed from that of a college teacher with large undergraduate classes to that of the specialist dealing with relatively small numbers. If he sometimes missed the larger contact, as I think he did, he fully realized the better opportunity for the training of scholars and for his own research. He had the satisfaction of seeing former pupils take their place as productive scholars. He was not himself a voluminous writer, but all his published work, from his edition of the *Philippics* of Demosthenes, in his twenties, to his most recent technical articles, bear the stamp of his severely accurate scholarship and trenchant criticism. As a scholar and in his personal relations he was a man of the utmost sincerity, of sometimes appalling frankness, the uncompromising foe of unsound learning and of unsound character. Always reserved, he was withal a man of the deepest feeling and kindest nature, as those know well who knew him best.

C. D. B.

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